

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A mounting arrangement for the internal dividing elements of refrigerators and freezers, comprising~~which comprise~~

a compartment [(C)] having two lateral walls [(14)], each carrying at least one rail [(20)] on which is slidably seated an adjacent lateral portion [(30)] of an internal dividing element [(E)] to be horizontally displaced between a first position, in which it is retracted inside the compartment [(C)], and second positions in which it is partially displaced forwardly and outwardly from the compartment [(C)], wherein ~~characterized in that~~ each rail [(20)] includes~~comprises~~ a flat horizontal upper track [(23)] and a lower track [(24)], the lower track being parallel to the upper track [(23)] and including ~~which is provided with~~ a stop device~~means (26)~~ and a longitudinal guide rail [(25)], each lateral portion [(30)] of the internal dividing element including~~(E) comprising~~ a seating surface [(31)] to be slidably seated on the upper track [(23)] of the respective rail [(20)] and a retaining surface [(32)] disposed below the lower track [(24)] and which carries a lock [(33)], which in an operative position, is slidably seated against the lower track [(24)] of the same rail [(20)], in order to abut said stop device~~means (26)~~ to define a second maximum displacement position of the internal dividing element [(E)] forwardly and outwardly from the compartment [(C)], at least one of the lateral portions [(30)] of the internal dividing element [(E)] further including~~comprising~~, in distinct regions of the longitudinal extension of the retaining surface [(32)] thereof, a guide follower [(35)] which is slidably fitted in the guide rail [(25)] of the lower track [(24)] of the respective rail [(20)].

2. (Currently Amended) The arrangement as set forth in claim 1, wherein~~characterized in that~~ the guide rail [(25)] is defined by a downwardly opened groove extended along the whole extension of the lower track [(24)], the guide follower [(35)] being defined by a rib upwardly projecting upwardly from the track of the retaining surface [(32)].

3. (Currently Amended) The arrangement as set forth in claim 1, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the guide rail [(25)] is disposed below the upper track [(23)] of the respective rail [(20)] and presents a width which is substantially smaller than that of the respective lower track [(24)].

4. (Currently Amended) The arrangement as set forth in claim 1, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the stop ~~device means (26)~~ is cutout from the profile of the lower track [(24)] of the rail [(20)].

5. (Currently Amended) The arrangement as set forth in claim 1, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the lock [(33)] is selectively manually displaced from the operative position to an inoperative position, in which it no longer abuts the front stop ~~device means (26)~~ of the lower track [(24)] of the respective rail [(20)] when the internal dividing element [(E)] reaches its second maximum displacement position, in order to allow the internal dividing element [(E)] to be completely extracted from the interior of the compartment [(C)].

6. (Currently Amended) The arrangement as set forth in claim 1, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ each lateral portion [(30)] of the internal dividing element [(E)] presents a "U" shaped cross section, with the basic leg being vertically disposed and with the internal faces of the lateral legs defining the seating surface [(31)] and the retaining surface [(32)], respectively.

7. (Currently Amended) The arrangement as set forth in claim 6, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the retaining surface [(32)] is defined by a median longitudinal extension of the respective lateral portion [(30)], of the internal dividing element [(E)], which is maintained slidingly seated against the lower track (24) of the rail [(20)].

8. (Currently Amended) The arrangement as set forth in claim 7, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the retaining surface [(32)] is defined by an insert fitted in the lower lateral leg of the respective lateral portion [(30)] of the internal dividing element [(E)].

9. (Currently Amended) The arrangement as set forth in claim 8, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the lock ~~[(33)]~~ is defined by a portion, cutout in the retaining surface ~~[(32)]~~ and which is upwardly bent and resiliently downwardly deformed to the inoperative position.

10. (Currently Amended) The arrangement as set forth in claim 8, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the guide follower ~~[(35)]~~ is incorporated to the retaining surface ~~[(32)]~~ and ~~includes~~comprises two portions, each longitudinally disposed on one of the sides of the lock ~~[(33)]~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The arrangement as set forth in claim 7, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ each rail ~~[(20)]~~ incorporates two stop ~~devices means (26)~~ longitudinally spaced from each other.